

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 6556

EO: 1162: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJ: LOS: SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH DISCUSSIONS

1. LOS TEAM, HEADED BY AMB JOHN NORTON MOORE AND INCLUDING AMB THOMAS CLINGAN, STUART P. FRENCH (DOD), ADM MAX MORRIS (OJCS), MORRIS BUSBY (STATE), ROGER HULL (STATE), AND NORMAN WULF (NSF), MET AUGUST 20 WITH SOVIET TEAM, HEADED BY AMB KOLOSOVSKY AND INCLUDING DEPUTY MINISTER TUCHINOV AND DR. KOVALEV, TO DISCUSS SOVIET REACTION TO US COMMENTS TO SINGLE NEGOTIATING TEXT ON MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

2. ORIGINAL SOVIET IMPRESSION THAT US HAD TAKEN THREE STEPS BACKWARD FROM THE US-USSR "AGREEMENT" ON SCIENCE IN GENEVA (THERE NEVER WAS SUCH AN AGREEMENT) DISSIPATED AS US TEAM EXPLAINED THAT AMENDMENTS WERE LARGELY THE RESULT OF DIFFICULTY IN DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN RESOURCE RELATED AND NONRESOURCE RELATED RESEARCH.

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3. SOVIETS ADMITTED DIFFICULTY OF DISTINGUISHING TYPES OF RE-

SEARCH, STATED WILLINGNESS TO WORK OUT AGREEMENT WITH US ON APPROPRIATE DEFINITIONS, AND ADDED THAT ANY DEFINITION OF RESOURCE RELATED RESEARCH HAD TO INCLUDE RESEARCH WHICH PERMITS THE ASSESSMENT OF RESOURCES AND THEIR AVAILABILITY FOR EXPLOITATION. KOVALEV THEN READ SUCH A DEFINITION:

"FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS CONVENTION, MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION OF LIVING AND NONLIVING RESOURCES MEANS RESEARCH WHICH PERMITS TO LOCATE RESOURCES, TO ASSESS THEM AND THEIR AVAILABILITY FOR COMMERCIAL EXPLOITATION. FOR THE SAME PURPOSES, ALL OTHER MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IS CONSIDERED AS NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE EXPLOITATION AND EXPLORATION OF LIVING AND NONLIVING RESOURCES."

4. IN DISCUSSION WHICH FOLLOWED, SOVIETS INDICATED THAT, IN ADDITION, THE USE OF EXPLOSIVES AND DRILLING ON THE SHELF WOULD REQUIRE COASTAL STATE CONSENT. MOORE POINTED OUT THAT DRILLING ON THE SHELF WAS ALREADY COVERED IN THE COMMITTEE II TEXT AND WAS NOT AN ISSUE. US THEN PROPOSED THAT SOVIET AND US EXPERTS SHOULD WORK OUT DEFINITION TO COVER OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY US AND SOVIETS, WHICH USES NEITHER THE WORD "EXPLORATION" NOR THE WORDS "RESEARCH RELATED TO RESOURCES." SOVIETS AGREED.

5. USSR REACTED NEGATIVELY TO US PROPOSED DELETION OF LANGUAGE DEALING WITH SHELF RESEARCH BEYOND 200 MILES. THEY STATED THAT FREEDOM OF RESEARCH ON THE SHELF BEYOND 200 MILES DOES NOT ACCORD WITH SOVIET LAW; THEY THEN ADDED THAT A DOUBLE REGIME (A REGIME FOR THE SHELF WITHIN 200 MILES AND A MORE LIBERAL REGIME BEYOND 200 MILES) MIGHT BE THE ANSWER. US-USSR EXPERTS WILL EXAMINE THIS QUESTION, ALTHOUGH US WILL MAINTAIN THAT LANGUAGE MUST BE DELETED. USSR DEL INDICATED THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO REVIEW THIS HOWEVER.

6. IN QUICK REVIEW OF OTHER AMENDMENTS, SOVIETS PROPOSED THAT "IN THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT" BE ADDED TO THE DEFINITION OF MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TO PROTECT SATELLITE RESEARCH; THAT ARTICLE 2 REMAIN UNCHANGED SINCE IT WAS AGREED IN CARACAS; THAT THE AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES 22 AND 25 WERE ACCEPTABLE; THAT ARTICLE 26 MIGHT CONTAIN A REFERENCE OF ARTICLE 75 OF COMMITTEE II TEXT; AND THAT DELETION OF ARTICLES 28 TO 33 WILL BE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD SUPPORT IT.

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7. DESPITE DIFFICULTY ON FUNDAMENTAL DISTINCTION BETWEEN RESEARCH AND EXPLOITATION, USSR DEL SEEMED TO HAVE NO MAJOR DIFFICULTY WITH STRUCTURE OF US AMENDMENTS.

8. SOVIETS ALSO PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF WORDS "ANY KIND OF" TO ARTICLE 6 AND DELETION OF ARTICLE 16 (A) AND EXPRESSED THEIR OPPOSITION TO A SPECIAL FUND IN THE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ARTICLES.

9. TEAMS OF TWO DELS WILL MEET BEFORE GROUP OF 5 MEETING TO TRY TO WORK OUT AGREED PROPOSALS AND DEFINITION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE INCLUDED IN CONSENT REGIME (EXPLOITATION AND DRILLING UNDER US APPROACH) AND NOTIFICATION REGIME (SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH UNDER US APPROACH) USING NEITHER US NOR SOVIET LANGUAGE (I.E., NEITHER EXPLOITATION NOR RESEARCH RELATED TO RESOURCES).DALE

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